GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2902
ANSWERED ON:20.03.2007
TARGET FOR EXPORT
Badiga Shri Ramakrishna

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of target of exports set and achieved during the year 2006-07;

(b) whether the Confederation of Indian Industries(CII) predicted US $150 billion exports by the year 2008-09;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the CII recommended for dedicating four ports in the country exclusively for the exports with improvements in the linkages;

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of employment opportunities generated during the year 2006-07 and additional jobs created by the year 2009 through exports;

(f) the details of other major recommendations made by the CII to boost the exports of the country; and

g) the steps taken by the Director General of Foreign Trade in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) An export target of US $ 125 billion was set by the Government for the current financial year 2006-07. Against this target, total exports for the period April-January 2006-07 was US $ 99 billion.

(b) & (c) Based on the prevailing trend in export growth the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) is of the view that exports will reach US $ 150 billion by the year 2008-09.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) According to a study conducted by the Research and Information System for Development Countries (RIS), a total of 16 million jobs (direct and indirect) are estimated to have been created through exports in the year 2004-05. According to the same study exports of US $ 150 billion will support 30 million jobs (direct and indirect).

(f) CII has recommended upgradation of trade related infrastructure through public-private partnership. It has also recommended that India should target for less than 10 hours turn around time at ports and airports for trade by 2010.

(g) The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) is in constant touch with the CII and other representatives of the Indian industry regarding their views on measures to boost exports. Policy initiatives for improving export performance is an on-going endeavour of the Government and several steps have been taken to simplify procedures and to reduce time-lag in export transactions.